

January 19, 2010



TRANSCRIPT

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL

PRESENT

Councilmember Nancy Floreen, President

Councilmember Valerie Ervin, Vice President

Councilmember Phil Andrews

Councilmember Roger Berliner

Councilmember Marc Elrich

Councilmember Michael Knapp

Councilmember George Leventhal

Councilmember Nancy Navarro

Councilmember Duchy Trachtenberg



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1 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

2 Good morning, everybody. We welcome you to the Council's January 19 session, and the
3 first thing on the agenda is an invocation from Rick Price, First Church of Christ, Scientist
4 in Gaithersburg. If we could stand. Thank you.

5
6 RICK PRICE:

7 Council President, Councilmembers, staff, and everyone else, let us pray. Almighty God,
8 we ask for your blessing on the Council, staff, and all others involved in the governing of
9 this County. May your wisdom, justice, grace, and compassion govern their actions. May
10 you give them the strength and energy to stay alert and engaged during long days and
11 nights of deliberation. May you give them the intelligence to sort through complicated
12 issues and many options. And finally, may you give them the heart, soul, and mind to
13 come up with what is best for the people of this County. Amen.

14
15 ALL:

16 Amen.

17
18 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

19 Thank you very much, Mr. Price. Before we get into agenda, I wanted to make a few
20 remarks about Haiti. During this weekend, we celebrated the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther
21 King, Jr. with a tremendous sprit of service represented by volunteer activities throughout
22 the County, including collections for Manna Food Center and a variety of environmental
23 projects. Mr. Andrews and I participated at the beginning of one, and I know there were
24 other activities at the conference center. This same spirit has been shown by our County
25 residents in their response to the terrible suffering of the people of Haiti in the wake of last
26 week's devastating earthquake, and I understand Councilmember Navarro's family is safe,
27 and we're very pleased to hear that. Our residents have joined a nationwide and
28 worldwide outpouring of support for the Haitian people, both financial support and material
29 support, and our web site lists organizations that are working around the clock to relieve
30 this suffering. The County government is also providing direct assistance. Our urban
31 search and rescue team is on standby, awaiting orders from the Federal Emergency
32 Management Agency. I understand officers from Haiti were trained in the past year on
33 search and rescue initiatives, so we are pleased to have been players so far and continue
34 to be a commitment to this effort. So, just a reminder to everyone to do everything we can
35 do to help the Haitian people in their time of desperate need. And again, Ms. Navarro, I'm
36 glad to hear about your family and we hope you'll keep us posted on the information that
37 you receive. And with that, Councilmember Andrews.

38
39 COUNCILMEMBER ANDREWS:

40 Thank you, Council President Floreen, and I wanted just to second what you said and
41 note that there has been a very close relationship between our fire and rescue service and
42 the Haitian fire department, and our department has trained a platoon, in effect, of fire and
43 rescue personnel from Haiti, and the County has received notification very recently, just a
44 couple days ago, that all of the people who we trained are safe and helping in the rescue.



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1 They were not in Port-au-Prince and were not injured in the earthquake. So, all good
2 news, and there is a special relationship there, and I second what you said.

3
4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

5 Thank you. Miss Lauer, general business items?

6
7 LINDA LAUER:

8 Yes, we have an addition to the Consent Calendar today to provide for introduction of the
9 resolution to amend the FY10 transportation fees, charges, and fares that will go to public
10 hearing on Thursday, February 4 at 7:30. And then the other--we did receive one petition
11 this week that's opposing the Pregnancy Resource Center disclaimer. Thank you.

12
13 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

14 Thank you very much, Miss Lauer. We have minutes to approve, minutes of December 8,
15 2009. Is there a motion to approve the minutes?

16
17 COUNCILMEMBER TRACHTENBERG:

18 So moved.

19
20 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

21 Thank you, Miss Trachtenberg. Is there a second? Seconded by Miss Ervin. All in favor of
22 approving the minutes of December 8, please raise your hand. Mr. Knapp, are you good
23 with the minutes? Yes, he is. That's a unanimous approval. And the next item is approval
24 of the closed session minutes of December 8. Is there a motion by-- Councilmember
25 Knapp and seconded by Council Vice President Ervin. All in favor. Again unanimous. We
26 shall move forward with that spirit of unanimity to the Consent Calendar. Is there a motion
27 for approval of the Consent Calendar?

28
29 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

30 Seconded.

31
32 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

33 Moved by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Leventhal. Any comments or observations for
34 that? All in favor of the Consent Calendar. Thank you very much. A unanimous motion.
35 Mr. Elrich joins us. Let's see here. Next item, introduction of bills. Bill 1-10, Development -
36 Coordination, Oversight, sponsored by Councilmembers Trachtenberg and Knapp, with a
37 public hearing scheduled for February 9 at 1:30 p.m. Councilmember Trachtenberg.

38
39 COUNCILMEMBER TRACHTENBERG:

40 Thank you, President Floreen. Just very briefly, I want to acknowledge Councilmember
41 Knapp for his co-sponsorship on this piece of legislation. This is something that both Mike
42 and I have been talking about for a long time and think there's a good amount of
43 consensus out there that there is a good need for some oversight and coordination,
44 especially in the area of complex development, and I think we can all agree that this is



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gonna be welcome and needed, and I really look forward to the conversation with the entire community about what's been proposed, and that would include not only homeowners but those that represent business interest as well as those who develop, so, again, I want to thank Councilmember Knapp for his sponsorship on this bill this morning.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPP:

Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Thank you, Councilmember Trachtenberg.

COUNCILMEMBER BERLINER:

Could we filibuster for another moment, Madam President?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Councilmember Berliner would like to weigh in.

COUNCILMEMBER KNAPP:

I'll say something to give you another minute. No. Clearly, we've learned a lot in Clarksburg and other places as to how we need to coordinate as a County, and we've had a lot of conversations as we've looked at the Gaithersburg West Master Plan and the White Flint Master Plans as to how to make sure all of the moving parts that require Park and Planning, that require different elements of County government as well as the private sector, to work in a more cohesive fashion to ultimately achieve the objectives of the plans that we will approve, which the County-- which our county residents actually expect to see. We passed a vision, and they actually want to see the vision implemented, and I think that this will help us more closely adhere to that vision that we're going to be approve--that we'll be approving on behalf of our residents, and so I appreciate Councilmember Trachtenberg's efforts in this regard. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Councilmember Berliner.

COUNCILMEMBER BERLINER:

Ahem. Thank you, Madam President. I want to thank my colleagues for this initiative. I do think it's so important that we get this plan right, and the key to getting this plan right will be the implementation phase of it, and so I would like to be added as a co-sponsor and look forward to working on this legislation and making sure it does all the things we want it to do.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Councilmember Andrews.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDREWS:



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1 Thank you, Council President Floreen. I would like to be added as co-sponsor as well. I
2 think this is a needed initiative to ensure adequate oversight of the implementation of
3 complex plans.

4
5 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

6 Great. OK. May I just comment from my perspective, I'd like-- when we get to this at some
7 point--we'll have public hearing and Committee worksession--I'm interested in the role that
8 Park and Planning should be playing in all this. So, if you could take that into your
9 consideration of this matter, I think that's a key player that the bill needs to address. And
10 Councilmember Trachtenberg would like to weigh in.

11
12 COUNCILMEMBER TRACHTENBERG:

13 Actually, I imagine that as we discuss this, it will be discussed in a joint worksession
14 structure between PHED and MFP, so I'm sure the questions that you have raised will be
15 addressed most certainly.

16
17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

18 Terrific. Thank you. Next item is Bill 2-10, Personnel, Contracts, Retaliation, sponsored by
19 Councilmembers Ervin, Andrews, Trachtenberg, Floreen, Navarro, and Elrich. Public
20 hearing scheduled for February 9 at 1:30. Councilmember Ervin.

21
22 COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT ERVIN:

23 Thank you very much. I want to first start by thanking Councilmembers Andrews and
24 Trachtenberg, who immediately signed on as co-sponsors right away. I think this is a very
25 important bill. Bill 2-10 is going to protect County employees who work for contractors and
26 subcontractors who report fraud, waste, and abuse to County government officials. And
27 that's pretty much the context of the bill. We do have a bill right now that does something
28 similar, although it does not protect employees who work for County contractors.

29
30 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

31 Thank you. And finally, we have Expedited Bill 3-10, Streets and Roads, Sidewalks, public
32 hearing requirement, sponsored by myself and Councilmembers Leventhal, Berliner, and
33 Ervin. Basically, this is brought about by Councilmember Ervin's interest in this issue, and
34 the T&E Committee has signed on. So, thank you very much, Councilmember Ervin, for
35 your interest in this matter. We have our public hearing on this scheduled for February 9
36 at 1:30. And comments?

37
38 COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT ERVIN:

39 Just a quick comment. I just want to say thank you very much to my staff, particularly Rich
40 Romer, who did a lot of work on bringing this subject to the Pedestrian Safety Advisory
41 Committee. We've also been talking to MCCPTA, who's examining this legislation. The
42 Pedestrian Safety Implementation Workgroup. D.O.T. supports the legislation, and this
43 actually came about from having many conversations in the Silver Spring area about
44 sidewalks and how long it takes, in neighborhoods that are waiting for sidewalks, to get



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1 sidewalks built. And so we know, for example, this is just a quick example, that since
2 August, that there's been a 4-month wait to get sidewalks to the place where they can go--
3 move forward. So we want to expedite this process for safety, for children walking to and
4 from school, and for people who just want access in their neighborhoods on sidewalks.
5 So, we appreciate the work in T&E, and thank you very much.

6
7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

8 It's a really important effort, and maybe we'll improve our implementation rate for
9 sidewalks. With that, can we move on to our action item here? We're a minute ahead of
10 schedule. Miss Michaelson is joining us for action on Amendment to the Park and
11 Planning's Capital Improvements Program. \$1,385,681 for the SilverPlace/MRO
12 Headquarters Mixed-Use Project, to change the funding source from Certificates of
13 Participation to County Current Revenue. Mr. Knapp?

14
15 COUNCILMEMBER KNAPP:

16 Thank you, Madam President. I will turn to Ms. Michaelson shortly just to show you
17 exactly where the changes were made. As I think people are aware, you can only fund
18 projects that are capital projects with bonds, and because we're not actually proceeding
19 with the actual reconstruction at SilverPlace at this time, the planning that would have
20 gone into that capital project is not eligible to be bond funded, and so we need to modify,
21 although none of us really want to, but practically we have to, we need to modify what was
22 bond funded and make it current revenue at a time...

23
24 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

25 It's actually certificates...

26
27 COUNCILMEMBER KNAPP:

28 Certificates--right. Certificates of Participation to current revenue. And so we are making
29 that modification. We did have one change that we differed from the Executive Branch in
30 as to how that would actually be reflected within the PDF, and I'll turn to Ms. Michaelson to
31 give you the accounting mechanism as to what we're changing.

32
33 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

34 Yes. There are two actions here. The first is to switch the funding source from Certificates
35 of Participation to Current Revenue, but also to delete the funding, the unspent funding on
36 this project. And the Executive, while believing that no further funds should be spent on
37 the project, in his recommended PDF nonetheless kept the funding in and showed them
38 as Certificates of Participation. The Committee believes it would be a lot clearer to just
39 delete the funding from the project, and that's \$416,000, and the Commission, although
40 they're not pleased that the project is not going forward, also believe that if the project is
41 not going forward, it's easier to remove the funding so that there's no confusion about
42 what the intent is. And the one change I want to--the other change that the County
43 Executive asked for, which the Committee agreed with, is to show that of the \$600,000 of
44 Park and Planning current revenue, that it is coming from the Internal Service Fund, and



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1 in the PDF that I just distributed for you, to you, it makes that correction, so if you look on
2 the PDF, the difference between that one and the one in the packet is under the source of
3 funding, there's a new funding line that says, "Current revenue, Park and Planning, ISF,"
4 and "600,000." And that is because in the Internal Service Fund, Park and Planning did
5 have cash available that they used to fund this project. This makes it clear it's not new
6 appropriation, that they did use money that was already in the Internal Service Fund. So
7 this more accurately shows what they did.

8
9 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

10 Thank you, Miss Michaelson. Mr. Leventhal has a question or a comment.

11
12 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

13 Well, I don't want to delay this unduly, but actually, I have several. I don't understand
14 anything that we're talking about. So, what is a Certificate of Participation?

15
16 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

17 OK, I don't know if we have any of the financial experts here who can more clearly explain
18 this than I can, but I'll take a try. A Certificate of Participation is a funding mechanism that
19 is used that does not count against our general obligation bonds, and so to the extent--
20 originally, it was thought of as being--

21
22 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

23 It's a borrowing mechanism?

24
25 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

26 It's a borrowing mechanism, but it's not--it's not in the same-- it doesn't count against bond
27 capacity.

28
29 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

30 Who are the investors who buy Certificates of Participation and who--

31
32 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

33 I think that's where you're getting at my limits. It is--there is a market for it. It has been
34 done by the County government in the past before.

35
36 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

37 So I'm gonna surmise--tell me if I'm on target--that when there was a proposal to do a
38 mixed-use development including affordable housing by contracting with private
39 developers, presumably those developers would have purchased Certificates of
40 Participation...

41
42 MARLENE MICHAELSON:



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1 No, I believe it is a public--no, it is a public mechanism for funding. And I'm sorry. I can get
2 back to you with more information about who the investors are, but the important thing to
3 note here is it can only be used for projects that actually proceed to construction. And so--

4
5 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

6 Investors will only purchase an interest in a project that's happening. That makes sense.
7 Yeah.

8
9 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

10 So, originally, the planning for this project was the Park and Planning Commission used
11 cash on hand with the intent of reimbursing that with Certificates of Participation when the
12 project moved to construction. So, it showed in the CIP as Certificates of Participation.
13 Now that we're not moving to construction, we need another funding source.

14
15 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

16 Now, the funding source, though, is going back a few years, so in effect this is a
17 bookkeeping notation.

18
19 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

20 Exactly. It is.

21
22 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

23 This settles the books for money that has already been spent.

24
25 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

26 Exactly.

27
28 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

29 And we're not appropriating one new dollar at this time. We're simply amending the books
30 to show the source of dollars that have long been spent and are gone, on all the blueprints
31 and plans that we were briefed on some years ago.

32
33 MARLENE MICHAELSON:

34 That's correct. That's correct. And that's why we struggle a little with how to show it on the
35 PDF.

36
37 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

38 OK. Again, I don't want to delay this unduly, Mr. Chairman of the PHED Committee, but
39 perhaps-- and maybe not all Councilmembers are interested in this. I would suspect
40 probably the Councilwoman from Silver Spring would be especially interested and at-large
41 members would be especially interested, but at the appropriate time, maybe we could get
42 a little information, those of us who don't have the benefit of serving on the PHED
43 Committee, about what is the state of play with respect to alleviating the overcrowded and
44 dilapidated conditions of the current Park and Planning facility. I've heard a lot of different



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1 things. I've heard expressions of interest from private sector commercial property owners
2 in housing a new Park and Planning facility. We don't need to answer all those questions
3 right now, but again, for those of us who don't have the benefit of serving on the PHED
4 Committee, I'd like to understand what the state of play is. I assume that a PDF that
5 shows that zero dollars are gonna be expended between now and 2014 does not mean
6 that in fact absolutely nothing will happen between now and 2014. I'm surmising that we
7 just don't know yet.

8
9 COUNCILMEMBER KNAPP:

10 I think that's accurate but I will get with the Council president and schedule a time that we
11 can either collectively as a full Council or on an individual basis make sure everyone gets
12 up to speed on that.

13
14 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

15 Thank you.

16
17 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

18 Thank you very much. I will say, I heard on the radio the other day. You know, all the
19 states have these same financial problems. There is an opportunity to purchase
20 Certificates of Participation in acquiring Arizona state office buildings. So, we all have that
21 opportunity for investment. There's a 4% return. You can make your own judgment about
22 that, so--and I'll be collecting a fee for advertising that. But--interestingly, the issue of
23 Certificates of Participation, I know, in Committee got everybody's attention because it
24 sounded like a great way to pay for things. So--

25
26 COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL:

27 Sounds so participatory.

28
29 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

30 Doesn't it? Indeed. So, we shall, I guess, reserve judgment for this for the future. And that--
31 -so, at this point, we have a Committee recommendation on the table to support these
32 changes. Is there--and so I'll call for a vote. All in favor of this action to amend the Capital
33 Improvements Program for Park and Planning? Please raise your hands. Another
34 unanimous vote. Thank you very much. And with that, we are adjourned for this morning.
35 Councilmember Trachtenberg is bringing us an update on the 311 operations up in the
36 sixth-floor conference room, and we will have a short public hearing at 1:30, and then
37 PHED Committee meeting at 2:00. I'm sure you'll all want to join us. Thank you.



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COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Good afternoon. This is a public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment 09-13, Transit Mixed-Use Zone Prior Approvals. This Zoning Text Amendment would expand the scope on the grandfathering provision to include approvals under town sector zoning in other zones. A Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee worksession on this ZTA is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 21, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. Persons wishing to submit additional material for the Council's consideration should do so before the close of business today, January 19. And for this, we have one speaker. And that speaker would be Mr. Greg Russ, who I believe has comments on two items.

GREG RUSS:

Thank you, Council President Floreen. For the record, Greg Russ from the Montgomery County Planning Board. The Planning Board did review Zoning Text Amendment Number 09-13 on Thursday, January 14. The Board unanimously recommends approval of the text amendment with some slight modifications just to clarify the intent of the legislation. The ZTA, as you mentioned, proposes to clarify grandfather provisions for sites recommended for reclassification to the TMX Zone by the Germantown Employment Area Sector Plan. The ZTA proposes changes to the existing grandfather provisions for the TMX Zone. Some revisions were needed to clarify that the development approved under a pre-approved development plan may proceed under the standards of the site's previous zone. For sites reclassified to the TMX Zone that require a preliminary plan or a site plan, the ZTA would allow proposed buildings to be enlarged by 10% or 7,500 square feet. The Board proposes the inclusion of the phrase "whichever is less" to this provision as a reasonable limit on expansion opportunities. This additional phrase is also consistent with current grandfather language in the TMX Zone for existing buildings and uses. The Planning Board also received comments prior to its hearing requesting further amendment to the ZTA by adding language that would allow reconstruction of a building destroyed in a catastrophic event. The Board believes that clarifying the grandfathering provisions to include this request would be in the spirit of the PHED Committee's intent to allow current lawful town sector-zoned buildings to be rebuilt to their current standards in the event of a casualty loss. I'm also speaking on the second ZTA, which is ZTA 09-14. The planning Board also reviewed this on January 14, and they recommend unanimously that this text amendment be approved as introduced. The Board believes that the proposed text amendment strikes a balance between reasonable notice requirements and administrative costs. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

Thank you, Mr. Russ. I see no questions. But you do remind me, Mr. Zyontz, do we have a consistent definition of grandfathering that would address this point about things destroyed?

JEFF ZYONTZ:



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1 It actually varies by zone. Sometimes--

2
3 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

4 Well, let's hope the rewrite fixes that. I guess that's where you'd best do that.

5
6 JEFF ZYONTZ:

7 Yes. Or not. I mean, certainly it's the Council's choice to put in grandfathering provisions
8 and it could be as inclusive or not as it chooses to be.

9
10 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

11 OK. Thank you very much. Next item on the agenda is public hearing on Zoning Text
12 Amendment 09-14. Hearing Examiner - Report Dissemination. This ZTA would amend
13 how the Hearing Examiner's office distributes the report. It would allow for a short mail
14 notice, posting the report on the Internet, and a paper copy of the report for any party who
15 lacks Internet access. Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee
16 worksession on this ZTA is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 21, 2010, at 9:30
17 a.m. Persons wishing to submit additional material for the Council's consideration should
18 do so before the close of business today, January 19. And there are no speakers for this--
19 for that matter, and our next item is agenda item number 9. This is a public hearing on
20 Expedited Bill 45-09, Contracts and Procurement Amendments. This bill would exempt
21 contracts for media advertisement and expert witnesses from the procurement law,
22 expand the coverage of the wage requirements law, amend the time for contractors to
23 submit information under the wage requirements law, repeal a section restricting the use
24 of County funds by contractors and grantees to influence or-- union organizing, amend the
25 prevailing wage law to require contractors to pay the prevailing wage in effect when the
26 solicitation is published, permit a using department to file a dispute under the
27 administrative dispute resolution process, and generally amend the county procurement
28 law. Transportation and Environment Committee worksession is tentatively scheduled for
29 Thursday, January 21, 2010, at 2 p.m. Persons wishing to submit additional material for
30 the Council's consideration should do so before the close of business today, January 19.
31 And with that, we have Mr. David Dise speaking on behalf of the County Executive.
32 Welcome, Mr. Dise.

33
34 DAVID DISE:

35 Thank you, Madam President. I am here to represent County Executive Isaiah Leggett in
36 support of Bill 45-09, and my testimony's being passed out right now to Councilmembers.
37 Bill 45-09 amends the procurement law to meet the changing needs of the County and
38 enhance the effectiveness of the procurement process. The bill and related proposed
39 executive regulations are a joint effort of the Department of General Services and the
40 Office of the County Attorney. The bill creates two exemptions from the formal
41 procurement process--one for services provided by expert consultants and investigators
42 and the other being for advertising services. Both types of transactions typically involve
43 short acquisition time frames and are not amenable to formal competition. The bill also
44 improves more stringent requirement--or imposes more stringent requirements on entities



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1 that provide a bond to the county so that available remedies may be attained more
2 expeditiously when necessary. The bill also allows the County to use the administrative
3 dispute resolution process, which is currently available only to contractors. The proposed
4 regulations will implement the changes in the bill and also make a number of other
5 changes to the current regulations governing the procurement process. Most significantly,
6 the proposed regulations would modify the dollar thresholds for various types of
7 procurement methods. Those modifications are long overdue and reflect the reality of the
8 costs of goods, services, and construction in today's marketplace. The proposed
9 regulations also, one, allow negotiations to occur concurrently with more than one vendor;
10 two, give authority to the DGS director to approve non-competitive contracts for
11 maintenance and support of software under certain circumstances, whereas now those
12 are required to go to the contract review committee, which can be a very timely process;
13 and 3, the measures also expand the ability of the county to use alternate methods to
14 certify minority-owned businesses, which currently the law only permits us to recognize
15 MDOT certifications. The new law would allow us to recognize other valid certifications.
16 The importance of the bill and related regulations warrant enactment at the earliest
17 possible opportunity. However, in order to allow for County departments to gear up for
18 these changes and do training internal staff, originally we had proposed a January 1
19 enactment. We are now proposing to move that to April 1, as this time frame provides for
20 sufficient time to test and implement changes in the county's finance systems and also, as
21 I mentioned, training. The changes reflected in this procurement reform package
22 represent a fundamental commitment by the County Executive to improve Montgomery
23 County procurement by streamlining the process as follows:
24 for the purchase of goods and services to expand opportunities to and remove hurdles
25 previously encountered by minority, female, disabled, and locally-owned businesses. They
26 also enable the County to operate with more efficiency and minimize expense. County
27 Executive Leggett urges your prompt and favorable consideration.

28
29 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

30 Thank you, Mr. Dise. Will this help with some of the issues we've identified with this small
31 business reserve program?

32
33 DAVID DISE:

34 It will. It will speed up a lot of the small business procurement. It raises the small
35 purchasing threshold from 500--from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and the formal threshold from
36 \$25,000 to \$100,000, and it enables us to not delay-- encounter the delay typically
37 associated with more formal procurements and to speed the procurement process and get
38 contracts out more readily and expand those to local businesses. That, coupled with the
39 recently passed local small business regulatory and legal reforms, will aid that process
40 considerably.

41
42 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

43 OK. Well, we'll look forward to chatting with you more on this on Thursday.



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1 DAVID DISE:

2 Indeed. Thank you very much.

3

4 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

5 I see no questions from my colleagues, so Council is adjourned for now and come back in
6 15 minutes for White Flint.

7

8 COUNCILMEMBER BERLINER:

9 In here?

10

11 COUNCIL PRESIDENT FLOREEN:

12 According to the schedule, yes.

13

14